

Los Alamos disease-fighting technology showing promise

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A pathogen-carrying pest known as the glassy-winged sharpshooter has plagued grape vines in California for more than century, but a new technology from Los Alamos National Laboratory could soon turn sharpshooter ammunition into blanks.

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The technology accelerates innate immune reactions in vines to block the onslaught of disease caused by sharpshooter pathogens. A new startup, Los Alamos-based Innate Immunity LLC, is now working with industry leaders on field trials before broadly deploying the technology to protect California's \$30 billion wine industry, said Pete

Downs, acting president of Family Winemakers of California, which represents about 450 wineries.

And grape vines may be just the start, as the technology could be applied to many other crops, and eventually, even to humans.

[Read the article in Albuquerque Journal.](#)

By Kevin Robinson-Avila - Oct. 26, 2016.

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